



Brownfields Assessment Pilots

City of Spokane, WA

BACKGROUND

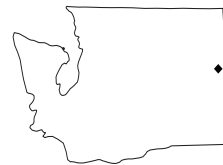
EPA has selected the City of Spokane for a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. Spokane (population 195,629) is located in eastern Washington. Historically, the city was a booming agriculture and mining center. In the mid-1950s, light manufacturing began to dominate the city's economy. In recent years, however, a number of large businesses have left the area, leaving many potentially contaminated manufacturing facilities in the downtown, near valley, and northeastern sections of the city. Most of Spokane's inventoried brownfields are found in the downtown core along existing railroad rights-of-way that once were used for industrial purposes. Development in outlying areas has drawn industries away from the inner city, leaving many abandoned buildings, blighted neighborhoods, and untaxed properties. This Pilot will focus on the Broadway & Maple area (population 20,718) and the Hillyard/North Market Street corridor (population 14,585) in Spokane's downtown district. Preliminary investigations have uncovered metals and petroleum contamination at the Broadway & Maple site. The Hillyard/North Market corridor was an aluminum smelting and petroleum refining area. Now it is a Community Development Neighborhood designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Both target sites lie within Spokane's state-designated Empowerment Zone, where the median annual household income is \$17,000, about half the state's average. In a one-mile radius of the Broadway & Maple site, 25 percent of the population lives in poverty and 8.5 percent are minorities. In a one-mile radius of the Hillyard/North Market Site, 20 percent of the population lives in poverty and 7 percent are minorities.

OBJECTIVES

The Pilot's objective is to revitalize brownfields properties by addressing potential health risks and restoring economic vitality to areas where brownfields exist. To accomplish this objective, the city plans to identify brownfields sites,

PILOT SNAPSHOT



*City of Spokane,
Washington*

Date of Announcement:
May 2002

Amount: \$ 200,000

Profile: This Pilot targets brownfields in two blighted areas of the city's downtown district for assessment.

Contacts:

City of Spokane
(509)625-6282

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA Region 10
(206)553-2709

Visit the EPA Region 10 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/r10earth>, click on "Superfund",
scroll down and click on "Brownfields"

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
www.epa.gov/brownfields

conduct assessments, and effectively involve the stakeholders, including community groups, investors, lenders, developers, and other affected parties, to address brownfields site assessment and barriers to cleanup.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Convening stakeholders in a community visioning process;

- Identifying and analyzing barriers to redevelopment and devising an implementation strategy for removing the barriers and preparing brownfield sites for assessment;
- Identifying brownfields that impede development;
- Finalizing a list of potential sites and exploring funding strategies for them;
- Conducting environmental assessments; and
- Securing cleanup funding.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.